

Cork Grand Opera Group

Sixth Season Presentation



FAUST

Patricia Lawlor

PROGRAMME

Conductor



Byrdan Powell

PALACE THEATRE, CORK

commencing February 3rd, 1958

Robertson

CORK GRAND OPERA GROUP

FOUNDED 1952

Previous Presentations

First Season "MARITANA" at Coliseum Theatre, Cork
1953 and City Theatre, Limerick.

Second Season "LA TRAVIATA" and "RIGOLETTO" at
1954 — *Spring* Cork Opera House.

Third Season "IL TROVATORE" and "LUCIA DI
1954 — *Winter* LAMMERMOOR" at Cork Opera House.

Fourth Season "AIDA" and "THE BARBER OF
1955 — *Winter* SEVILLE" at Cork Opera House.

Fifth Season "MARITANA" at Palace Theatre, Cork.
1957 — *Spring*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Cork Grand Opera Group expresses thanks to the following for valuable assistance rendered in various ways:—The Manager and Staff of this Theatre; the Minister for Defence and Col. Sean Collins-Powell; Thomas Crosbie & Co. Ltd.; Mr. Alec Day; Mrs. Lehane: Cork Chemical and Drug Co.; Messrs. Egan & Co.; Miss Barry (Florist); Mr. Kevin Kerrigan; Fordson Factory; Grand Parade Salesrooms; Irish Red Cross Society; Dublin Grand Opera Society; Olympia Theatre; Sadler's Wells Theatre; Carl Rosa Opera Co.; Cash & Co. Ltd.; Moderne; Metropole Hotel, Mr. Stanley M. Bowyer.

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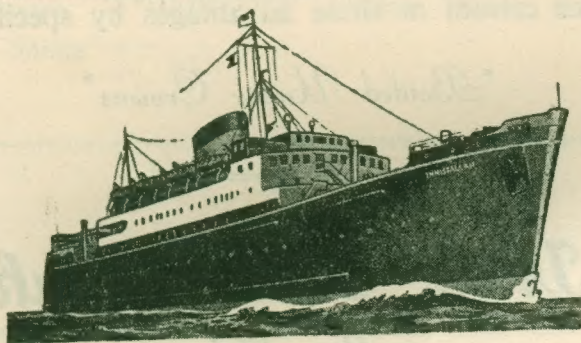
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PALACE THEATRE, CORK

Manager : DERMOT BREEN

*Commencing Monday, February 3rd, 1958,
for Six Nights at 8 p.m.*

CORK GRAND OPERA GROUP

★
presents

SIXTH SEASON OF GRAND OPERA

FAUST

★
and

LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR

SPECIAL NOTICES

- In consideration for the Artistes, patrons are requested to please refrain from SMOKING in the Theatre.
- In consideration for Artistes and Patrons, kindly return to your seat IMMEDIATELY warning bell rings at close of each interval.
- The Board of Management of Cork Grand Opera Group reserves the right to make any alteration in the Programme rendered necessary by illness or other unavoidable cause.
- Encores are not given in Group productions. Without this rule, it would be difficult to keep the performance to time, and it would cause inconvenience to patrons travelling by late buses.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, February 3rd, 5th and 7th

CORK GRAND OPERA GROUP

presents

FAUST

An Opera in Four Acts by Charles Gounod.

Libretto by J. Barbier and M. Carré after Goethe's Drama.

English Translation by H. F. Chorley.

Characters in order of their appearance:

Faust (*a Philosopher*).....BRYCHEN POWELL.

MephistophelesMARIAN NOWAKOWSKI

Margarita (*a young girl*).....DOREEN MURRAY

Wagner (*a soldier*).....DAVID. J. McINERNEY

Valentine (*Soldier brother to Margarita*).....RONALD EVANS

Siebel (*a student*).....PATRICIA LAWLOR

Martha (*a neighbour*).....MAURA HAYES

Chorus of Soldiers and Townsfolk.

Conductor.....Comdt. JOHN P. BRENNOCK

Chorus Master.....MAURA HAYES

Production and Stage Direction.....PATRICK MacCLELLAN

The Story of the Opera

The action of the Opera is laid in Germany in the middle of the sixteenth Century.

ACT 1. — Scene 1.

Faust's Library

Faust, an aged philosopher, looks back over the years he has spent in study and learning, which have brought him so little reward, and resolves to end his life with a draught of poison. Irritated by the happy singing of the peasants on their way to the fields, he invokes Mephistopheles, the Spirit of Darkness, who offers to restore youth to Faust in exchange for the eternal possession of his soul. Faust hesitates, but when Mephistopheles conjures up a vision of the beautiful Margarita, he capitulates, and signs the fatal contract. He is immediately transformed into a young man.

Scene 2.

A Square in Frankfurt

Mephistopheles and Faust arrive in Frankfurt where a regiment of soldiers is about to depart for the wars. Among them is Valentine, the brother of Margarita, who commends his only sister to the care of Siebel, a young student who is in love with her.

Mephistopheles proceeds to amuse and awe the crowd, but his entertainment becomes objectionable when he proposes a sneering toast to Margarita. Valentine and the soldiers call in question his sinister influence.

Margarita herself passes by on her way home from church and Faust presents himself to her, but she refuses his offer to escort her home.

INTERVAL

ACT 2.

Margarita's Garden

Siebel comes to visit Margarita, but, finding her not yet returned, he leaves a bunch of flowers for her outside her door.

Mephistopheles brings Faust to her garden and, seeing Siebel's

bouquet, departs and returns with a casket of jewels as a more tempting offer for her.

Soon Margarita herself appears and, finding the jewels, tries them on. She is discovered thus by Martha, an elderly neighbour, and is joined by Faust and Mephistopheles, the latter contriving to get Martha out of the way so that Faust may pursue his acquaintanceship with Margarita.

As night comes on, she succumbs to his ardent wooing, and Mephistopheles triumphantly contemplates his success in winning for himself another soul.

INTERVAL

ACT 3.

The Square in Frankfurt

Many months have passed by and the soldiers are returning from the wars. Faust has long since deserted Margarita, and left her with a child, which Siebel is anxious to conceal from Valentine, but is unable to prevent him entering the house. Mephistopheles and Faust appear, and the former sings a lewd and mocking serenade to Margarita which brings Valentine out, sword in hand. He challenges Faust to a duel, but Mephistopheles intervenes and Valentine is killed.

INTERVAL

ACT 4. — Scene 1.

Inside the Church

Crushed by the succession of tragic events, Margarita comes to the church hoping for spiritual consolation, but Mephistopheles appears to her and tells her that she is beyond redemption and that she must face eternal damnation.

Scene 2.

A Prison Cell

Margarita has been cast into prison for murdering her child, and is awaiting execution. Faust and Mephistopheles enter her cell, and the latter lays open the way of escape if she will follow them. Her mind has become deranged and she recoils from Faust, imploring the protection of Heaven. More and more urgent become her prayers, and, at last, she falls dying, while the angelic choir announces her pardon and salvation.

CORK GRAND OPERA GROUP CHORUS

SOPRANOS—Maura Hayes, Irene Looney, Marie McGrath, Philomena Morris, Marjorie Murphy, Olive Murphy, Sheila O'Brien, Grace O'Callaghan, Nuala O'Callaghan, Olive O'Connell, Kay O'Mahony, Marie O'Regan, Kitty O'Shaughnessy, Claire O'Sullivan, Frances Riordan, Betty Ryan, Nuala Ryan.

CONTRALTOS—Edie Bowen, Ellen Collins, Joan Collins, Phyllis Dinan, Lily Dorgan, Kitty Hegarty, Monica Looby, Mary Lynch, Mary McInerney, Una Santry, Mary Scott, Anne Scriven.

TENORS—Michael Condon, Denis Cullinane, Michael Finn, Jack Kelleher, Richard Kelly, John Moloney, Stephen Mulcahy, James Neff, Jeremiah O'Brien, Cornelius O'Connell, Declan O'Sullivan, Jack O'Sullivan.

BASSES—John Bickerstaffe, Jerry Dennehy, Thomas Desmond, John Dwyer, Barry Hassett, Stephen Hill, James Levis, James Long, David McInerney, Patrick O'Donovan, Andrew Ryan.

CHOREOGRAPHY—Country dance in "Lucia di Lammermoor" arranged by Betty Long and danced by Betty Long, Angela Long, Sylvia McCarthy and Grace Crowley.

Dance in Act 1, Scene 2 "Faust" devised by Betty Long and danced by Betty Long, Angela Long, Grace Crowley, Carmel Good, Patricia McCarthy and Sylvia McCarthy.

Leader of Orchestra.....	Kathleen Bowes
Accompanist at Rehearsals.....	Michael Geary
Stage Manager.....	Michael Scanlan
Property Master.....	John Hoey
Chief Electrician.....	Eddie Twohig
Wardrobe Mistress.....	Mary Murphy
Assistants.....	Eileen White, Pauline Condon, Kathleen Kennedy, K. Murphy.
Wardrobe Master.....	Derry Terry
Assistant.....	Tom Eaton
Costumes.....	Nathans (London), B. J. Simmons (London), Sadler's Wells, Gings Ltd. (Dublin).
Wigs.....	Gustav's (London), Gings Ltd. (Dublin)
Make-up.....	Mary O'Connell, Mona Kenny, Patricia Neenan, Denis Harrington, Frank Kelleher, Tom Vesey, Sean Healy.
Additional Lighting.....	Strand Electric Co. (Dublin)
Hon. Sec., Cork Grand Opera Group.....	Sean O'Mahony
Assistant Hon. Sec.....	Derry Terry
Acting Hon. Treasurer.....	Mary Murphy
Business Manager and Chairman.....	D. L. Whyte
Publicity Officer.....	Michael C. O'Driscoll
Choral Secretary.....	Mary Scott
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